

**BATTERERS INTERVENTION PROGRAM STANDARDS  
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

**Meeting of August 1, 2011**

**Open Session**

**Voting Members Present :(7) Shelley Cortese, RIDOC/Chair; Elaine Dorazio, Supreme Court; Anthony Ward-Smith, Justice Assistance; Mary Osborne, Bridgemark; Daniel Guglielmo, Attorney General's Office; Beatriz Perez, RIDOH; Zulma Garcia, RICADV**

**Seats Not Represented :(5) Governor's Office, RI Police Chief Association, RI District Court, Urban League, RI Justice Assistance, Supreme Court**

**Additional Participants: (7) Bryan Riley, FVI; George Sheehan, RI BIP; Anita Corley, EBCC; Jean Embrey, DOC; Ingrid Siliezar, DOC; Dave Spencer, Tri-Hab/Gateway Healthcare; Sandra Santana, FVI**

**Materials Distributed:**

**Meeting Agenda-August 1, 2011**

**Meeting Minutes-April 4, 2011**

**Summary of Batterers Intervention Program Monitoring for Renewed Comprehensive Certification**

**Shelley Cortese, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order.**

## **Review of Minutes**

**Minutes of the April 4, 2011 meeting were reviewed.**

**Motion made by M. Osborne and seconded by E. Dorazio to accept April 4, 2011 meeting minutes. Motion Passes**

## **Review Subcommittee Report**

- **RI-BIP**

**S. Cortese asked members in attendance to review the Summary of Batterers Intervention Program Monitoring for Renewed Comprehensive Certification.**

**Motion made by B. Perez and seconded by A. Corley to accept Renewed Comprehensive Certification for RI BIP. Motion Passes**

## **- Updates**

**A. Corley reported facilitators did a wonderful job in both group observations. There was also a very good report for both the women's groups.**

**I. Siliezar reported for S. Mendoza who had no concerns with facilitators during their group observation and felt they were right on**

**target.**

**S. Cortese reported for M. Lombardi who also found no problems during her group observations.**

### **Member Issues/Discussion/Announcements**

**S. Cortese: There is an ongoing problem with getting police reports to facilitators at the time of referring offenders to a group. It is very crucial to have these reports. Probation officers in court were asked to retrieve all police reports for Domestic Violence cases specifically to get to facilitators.**

### **Batterers Intervention for High Risk Offenders/Update:**

**After a lengthy discussion at the April BIPSOC meeting with J. Bucci and other attendees, it was decided to have Probation Officers make referrals with a better knowledge of the offenders' history.**

**J. Embrey will work in collaboration with J. Riley and G. Sheehan to discuss referrals and what would be a good time to begin the referral process. It was determined they will start the program referring 8-10 offenders from Providence with domestic violence cases. S. Cortese would like to get the program going as soon as possible.**

### **New Legislation/Veteran's Program for Domestic Violence Offenders:**

**Recently a new bill has passed to approve new programs for domestic violence offenders who have a military history. "Strength at**

**Home” is currently the only program available for veterans with domestic violence cases and need counseling. They have offered to attend the next BIPSOC meeting to talk about their program.**

**According to the new bill it is determined at sentencing if the offender chooses to attend a veteran’s program with funding to attend counseling or they can choose to attend a traditional program and pay for their counseling out-of-pocket.**

## **Upcoming Meetings**

### **Review Subcommittee:**

**Thursday, September 22nd – 2nd Floor Conference Room/Dix Building**

### **DV Critical Case Review Team:**

**To be determined**

### **Oversight Committee:**

**Monday, October 17, 2011 at 2:00pm in 2nd Floor Conference Room/Dix Building**

**Meeting Adjourned**

**Meeting adjourned at 3:00.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Crystal Baptista, Probation & Parole**